

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION NATO PRIORITY

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EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: NATO

SUBJECT: VENUE OF THE SPRING 1975 NATO MINISTERIAL
MEETING

REF: USNATO 5409

1. YOU SHOULD APPROACH SYG LUNS AT EARLIEST OPPORTUNITY
TO DISCUSS ISSUE, FLAGGED IN USNATO 5409, POSED BY
ASSUMPTION BY GREEK FOREIGN MINISTER OF HONORARY NAC
PRESIDENCY FOR PERIOD DECEMBER 1974 TO DECEMBER 1975,
AND PLANS TO HOLD NAC SPRING MINISTERIAL MEETING IN
ANKARA.

2. YOU SHOULD ASK LUNS FOR FURTHER READING HE MAY HAVE
OF GREEK AND TURKISH VIEWS ON THIS MATTER, AND INDICATE
OUR VIEWS AS FOLLOWS: FIRST, IF GREEKS AND TURKS IN NORMAL
COURSE ASSUME RESPECTIVE ROLES AS NAC HONORARY PRESIDENT
AND HOST OF SPRING MEETING, WE, FOR OUR PART, WOULD NOT
RPT NOT WISH TO TRY TO TAKE INITIATIVE TO CHANGE VENUE
OR TO DISSUADE GREEKS FROM ASSUMING HONORARY

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PRESIDENCY. SECOND, IF GREEKS COMPLAIN ABOUT VENUE

OF SPRING MEETING IN TURKEY, WE BELIEVE LUNS SHOULD
CONSIDER ENCOURAGING THEM TO FOREGO HONORARY PRESIDENCY
FOR ONE MORE YEAR. IN THIS CONNECTION, LUNS MIGHT

ARGUE WITH GREEKS THAT SUCH DEFERRAL WOULD BE EASIEST
WAY TO SPARE ALLIES FROM FURTHER DIFFICULTIES ARISING
FROM GREEK-TURKISH DIFFERENCES.

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